

Appl. No. 10/807,213
Amdt. Dated Feb. 28, 2006
Reply to Office Action of Nov. 29, 2005

REMARKS

At first, the applicant acknowledges the examiner's action mailed on 11/29/2005. The newly added claims 9-15 can find support from paragraphs [0014] and [0016] and Figures 1-3. Thus, no prohibited new matter was entered.

Claim Rejections-35 USC 102

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Pernet (US 5,860,821).

In regard to claim 1, a switching terminal comprises a carrier strip; a first terminal extending from an edge of the carrier strip; and a second terminal extending from the edge of the carrier strip, being substantially parallel to the first terminal and having a cutout defined in an edge thereof to absorb distortion of the second terminal in the course of the second terminal bending to be substantially parallel to the first terminal.

Referring to FIG. 1 of Pernet as follows, a contact strip 1 comprises an

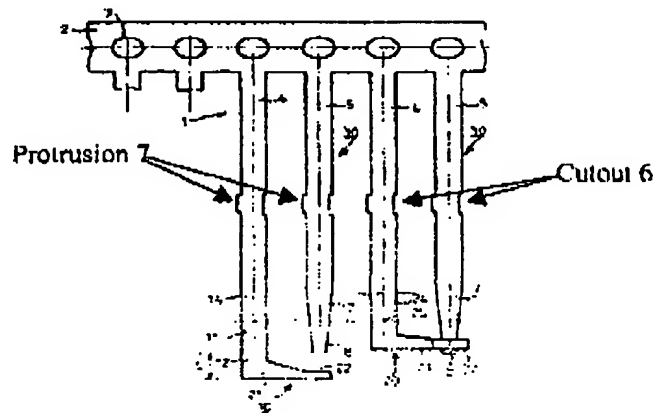


Fig. 1

edge strip 2 and handling openings 3 together with pairs of contacts in the

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form of blade members 4 and 5. Each of the blade members 4 and 5 comprises a cutout designated with numeral 6 and an opposite protrusion designated with numeral 7. The blade members 4 and 5 are parallel to each other.

Learn from Pernet, the blade members 4 and 5 are always parallel to each other. However, because the first terminal and the second terminal of the claimed invention are not parallel to each other originally, the cutout of the claimed invention is to absorb distortion of the second terminal in the course of the second terminal bending to be parallel to the first terminal. That is, the blade members 4 or 5 do **NOT** produce distortion similarly as the claimed invention. Therefore, the cutout 6 is **NOT** to absorb the distortion of the blade members 4 or 5.

On the other hand, the protrusion 7 locates opposite to the cutout 6. Because the existence of the protrusion 7, therefore, it is impossible the cutout 6 has the function to absorb the distortion of the blade members 4 or 5 suppose the blade members 4 or 5 produce distortion in order to be parallel to each other similarly as the claimed invention.

In this situation, the cutout 6 does **NOT** absorb the distortion of the blade members 4 or 5 in any event. However, the applicants have amended the claim 1 to have the feature of "a cutout defined in an edge thereof to absorb distortion of the second terminal in the course of the second terminal bending to be substantially parallel to the first terminal" and the feature can find supports from paragraphs [0016] and [0019] and figures 1-2.

Therefore, claim 1 after amended is not anticipated by Pernet.

Claims 2-7 and 15 are patentable since their dependency from the

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independent claim 1.

In regard to claim 9, the claim 9 has the feature of **“the second terminal defining a cutout in an edge thereof to absorb distortion of the second terminal in the course of the second terminal bending to be substantially parallel to the first terminal”**. Similarly as the illustrations of claim 1, therefore, claim 9 is not anticipated by Pernet.

Claims 10-12 are patentable since their dependency from the independent claim 9.

In regard to claim 13, the switching terminal comprises a movable terminal; a stationary terminal having a first contacting section protruding towards the movable terminal from a distal end thereof; and the movable terminal having a second contacting section to electrically connect with the first contacting section of the stationary terminal.

Referring to FIG1 of Pernet illustrated above, a contact strip 1 comprises an active contact 20 and a passive contact 30. The active contact 20 is equivalent to the movable terminal of the claimed invention. The passive contact 30 is equivalent to the stationary terminal of the claimed invention.

Apparently, the active contact 20 comprises a lug 21 extending from a distal end of the active contact 20 to protrude towards the passive contact 30. The passive contact 30 does NOT have a protruding portion at a distal end thereof.

However, in the claimed invention, it is **the stationary terminal** that has a first contacting section protruding towards **the movable terminal** from a distal end of the stationary terminal.

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Obviously, Pernet does **NOT** disclose the feature of "a **stationary terminal** having a first contacting section protruding towards the movable terminal from a distal end of the stationary terminal".

Therefore, claim 13 is not anticipated by Pernet.

Claim 14 is patentable since it depends from the claim 13.

In view of the above claim amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in a condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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By 

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